LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (*Currently Amended*) A synthetic CXCR3 polypeptide ligand comprising a polypeptide of from about 70 to about 125 amino acids in length, optionally further including an additional methionine attached to the ordinarily first amino acid at the N-terminus, the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide comprising, in sequence, discrete sub-sequences corresponding in amino acid identity and number ~~to~~ sub-sequences of ~~different~~ each naturally occurring CXCR3 ligands ~~selected from~~ IP-10, I-TAC, and Mig, where the amino acid sequence of the synthetic CXCR3 polypeptide differs from the amino acid sequence of naturally occurring CXCR3 ligands IP-10, I-TAC, and Mig, wherein the amino acid sequence of the synthetic CXCR3 is SEQ ID NO: 15.

2. (*Cancelled*)

3. (*Withdrawn*) A synthetic CXCR3 ligand comprising a polypeptide of from about 70 to about 125 amino acids in length, optionally further including an additional methionine attached to the ordinarily first amino acid at the N-terminus, the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide comprising those amino acid residues that are common to IP-10, Mig, and I-TAC, and which comprises, at one or more of those positions where there is no amino acid common to IP-10, Mig, and I-TAC, an amino acid which predominantly occurs at that position.

4. (*Withdrawn*) The synthetic CXCR3 polypeptide ligand of claim 3, wherein the CXCR3 ligand comprises the amino acid sequence as set forth in any one of SEQ ID NO:01, 02, and 03.

5. (*Currently Amended*) A composition comprising the synthetic CXCR3 ligand of ~~any of claims~~ claim 1[[-4]].

6. (*Withdrawn*) A polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a synthetic CXCR3 ligand of any of claims 1-4.

7. (*Withdrawn*) The polynucleotide of claim 6, wherein-said synthetic CXCR3 ligand comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in any one of SEQ ID NO:01, 02, 03, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20.

8. (*Withdrawn*) An expression vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 6 operably linked to a promoter.

9. (*Withdrawn*) A host cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 6.

10. (*Withdrawn*) A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 8.

11. (*Withdrawn*) A method for producing a synthetic CXCR3 ligand, the method comprising: culturing the host cell of claim 10 under conditions that favor production of the synthetic CXCR3 ligand; and isolating the synthetic CXCR3 ligand from the culture.

12. (*Withdrawn*) An antibody that specifically binds a synthetic CXCR3 ligand of any one of claims 1-4.

13. (*Withdrawn*) A method of treating a fibrotic disease in an individual, the method comprising administering to an individual suffering from a fibrotic disease an amount of a synthetic CXCR3 ligand that is effective in the treatment or prophylaxis of the fibrotic disease in the individual.

14. (*Withdrawn*) The method of claim 13, wherein the fibrotic disease is pulmonary fibrosis.

15. (*Withdrawn*) The method of claim 13, wherein the pulmonary fibrosis is idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.

16. (*Withdrawn*) The method of claim 13, wherein the pulmonary fibrosis is from a known etiology.

17. (*Withdrawn*) The method of claim 13, wherein the fibrotic disease is selected from liver fibrosis, renal fibrosis, cardiac fibrosis, and scleroderma.

18. (*Withdrawn*) A method of reducing tumor growth in an individual having a tumor, the method comprising administering to the individual an effective amount of a synthetic CXCR3 ligand.

19. (*Withdrawn*) The method of claim 18, further comprising administering an effective amount of an anti-neoplastic agent selected from an alkylating agent, a nitrosourea, an antimetabolite, an antitumor antibiotic, a plant (vinca) alkaloid, a taxane, and a steroid hormone.

20. (*Withdrawn*) The method of any of claims 13-19, wherein the individual is a human.